

city of Seattle with close to \$1 million for APEC related costs.

Mr. President, for the record, I want to walk my colleagues through some of the history of the issue of the funding of the WTO that was discussed on the floor earlier today.

From the moment Seattle was awarded the WTO Ministerial meeting, I worked with the city of Seattle and others to ensure Seattle was given an opportunity to successfully host the WTO. For almost a year, I met with the city, the Seattle Host Organization, our Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky and others within the executive branch. At every opportunity, I stressed the importance of supporting the city of Seattle in its efforts to provide the necessary security arrangements to the delegates and other WTO visitors.

The Clinton administration—in its fiscal year 2000 budget—requested \$2 million in State Department money for WTO related expenses. This request was formulated months before a U.S. host city for the WTO was selected. From the very beginning, the Washington congressional delegation and WTO organizers in Washington state realized this request would be inadequate.

Beginning in March of 1999, with my appropriations request letter to the Commerce, Justice, State appropriations subcommittee, I encouraged the Congress to provide \$5 million to the State Department for WTO related expenses. And I urged the Congress to essentially earmark one-half of this money for Seattle to meet a portion of the WTO security expenses.

The Senate Commerce, Justice, State bill did provide the State Department with \$5 million for WTO related expenses, but the House version did not. During the conference report, I worked with my Washington state congressional colleagues to protect the \$5 million in new WTO money.

Unfortunately, the original CJS conference report did not provide new money. Instead, it said the State Department could take up to \$5 million for existing accounts and move them over to be used for WTO expenses.

When I saw that language, I was concerned. To me, it increased the likelihood that the State Department would not assist Seattle with WTO security related costs. Fortunately, as often happens with appropriations bills, the final product is a compromise between the Congress and the administration.

On several occasions, I continued to express to the administration the need for securing \$5 million in new money—rather than relying on the State Department to move old money around.

Mr. President, I asked unanimous consent to print in the RECORD a letter dated September 28, 1999.

There being no objection, the letter was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
Washington, DC, September 28, 1999.
Hon. JUDD GREGG,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
State, and the Judiciary, Senate Appropriations
committee, The Capitol, Washington,
DC.

DEAR SENATOR GREGG: As you know, the World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial will be held in Seattle later this year. The Seattle Host Organization is busy preparing to host the largest trade meeting ever held in the United States. About 5,000 official delegates from 135 nations as well as thousands of reporters, demonstrators and other interested parties will converge on Seattle to participate in WTO Ministerial events. In addition, President Clinton and numerous heads of state are expected to attend the meetings and play an active role in the Ministerial.

The City of Seattle and other local law enforcement officials are spending considerable time and resources preparing for the numerous security issues associated with the high-profile event. The Senate-passed fiscal year 2000 Commerce, Justice and State Appropriations Act provides \$5 million to the State Department for WTO-related expenses. This is the only federal contribution directed to the WTO Ministerial. The House bill, unfortunately, did not include any federal commitment for WTO expenses. In conference, I strongly encourage you to protect the Senate's \$5 million WTO appropriation. Additionally, I urge you to include the following report language in the conference report.

“Requested Conference Report language: The conference recommendation directs that \$5 million be made available from this account for the costs associated with hosting the World Trade Organization conference in Seattle, WA and that 50% of such funds be allocated for reimbursement, through the City of Seattle, of local law enforcement and fire agencies for costs incurred in providing security for the meeting, including costs for overtime and motorcade expenses.”

I look forward to your continued attention and support for this important issue.

Sincerely,

PATTY MURRAY,
U.S. Senator.

Mrs. MURRAY. This letter was written to the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations Committee and in close consultation with WTO organizers in Seattle, including the City of Seattle. Unfortunately, despite efforts by my office and the City of Seattle, no other Senators signed the letter urging the Appropriations Committee to provide the WTO funding, as well as earmark funds for the City of Seattle.

I worked to make it a bipartisan letter. Perhaps if other Senators had signed the letter when I asked last year, we would have been able to provide earmark money for Seattle and avoid part of the problem now facing my state, as was discussed by my colleague from Washington earlier today.

The WTO was a difficult period for my constituents. We are continuing to deal with the many issues raised for our state during the ministerial. The city of Seattle and other local governments have been forced to bear \$12 million in security costs. This is a far higher cost than anyone anticipated. It threatens to force other budget cuts to make up for the State Department's refusal to work with my constituents.

Congress—with strong assistance from the President and Vice Presi-

dent—did provide \$5 million in WTO money. The issue before us now is between my constituents—who have been asked to absorb virtually all WTO security costs—and the State Department.

Obviously, this issue will not go away. And I have already begun to work with the administration to get further support in forcing the State Department to assume some responsibility for the \$12 million in WTO security costs.

Now is not the time for the State Department to discredit or deny the legitimate issues raised by my constituents. And now is not the time to politicize an issue that remains difficult and volatile for my constituents. Seattle and Washington state want to heal the WTO wounds.

This administration has been enormously helpful to Washington state interests. Across the board, the President and the Vice President, have both devoted time, energy and resources to Washington state's problems fighting for jobs for aerospace workers, supporting our high tech economy, devoting new resources to environmental problems, and addressing our difficult transportation problems are all examples of the close working relationship between this administration and Washington state.

And I expect the same degree of support in trying to resolve the current problem on WTO security related costs incurred by the city of Seattle and other local governments in Washington state.

Mr. President, I encourage my colleagues to join me in working with the administration to address this very difficult problem. The best way to do this is through cooperation—by trying to convince the State Department that in hosting international events, we must be careful not to ask local governments to assume costs that are clearly federal responsibilities.

Mr. President, I will continue my efforts to ensure that the city of Seattle and other local governments are not left holding the bag, and once again, I welcome my colleagues to join me in this effort.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned under the previous order.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:52 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, February 3, 2000, at 10:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate February 2, 2000:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THOMAS G. WESTON, OF MICHIGAN, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, FOR THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS SPECIAL COORDINATOR FOR CYPRUS.

SUSAN S. JACOBS, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR,